

THOMAS POINT SHOAL LIGHT STATION

Chesapeake Bay, Annapolis vicinity

Thomas Point Shoal Light Station is the last unaltered screwpile cottage-type lighthouse on its original foundation in the United States. Screwpile foundation technology greatly improved the U.S. aids to navigation system, allowing more than 100 lighthouses to be built in offshore locations that previously could only be marked by buoys or expensive lightships. Replacing an onshore station in 1875, the Thomas Point Shoal Light Station continues to serve as an active aid to navigation.